

# n The Media ia

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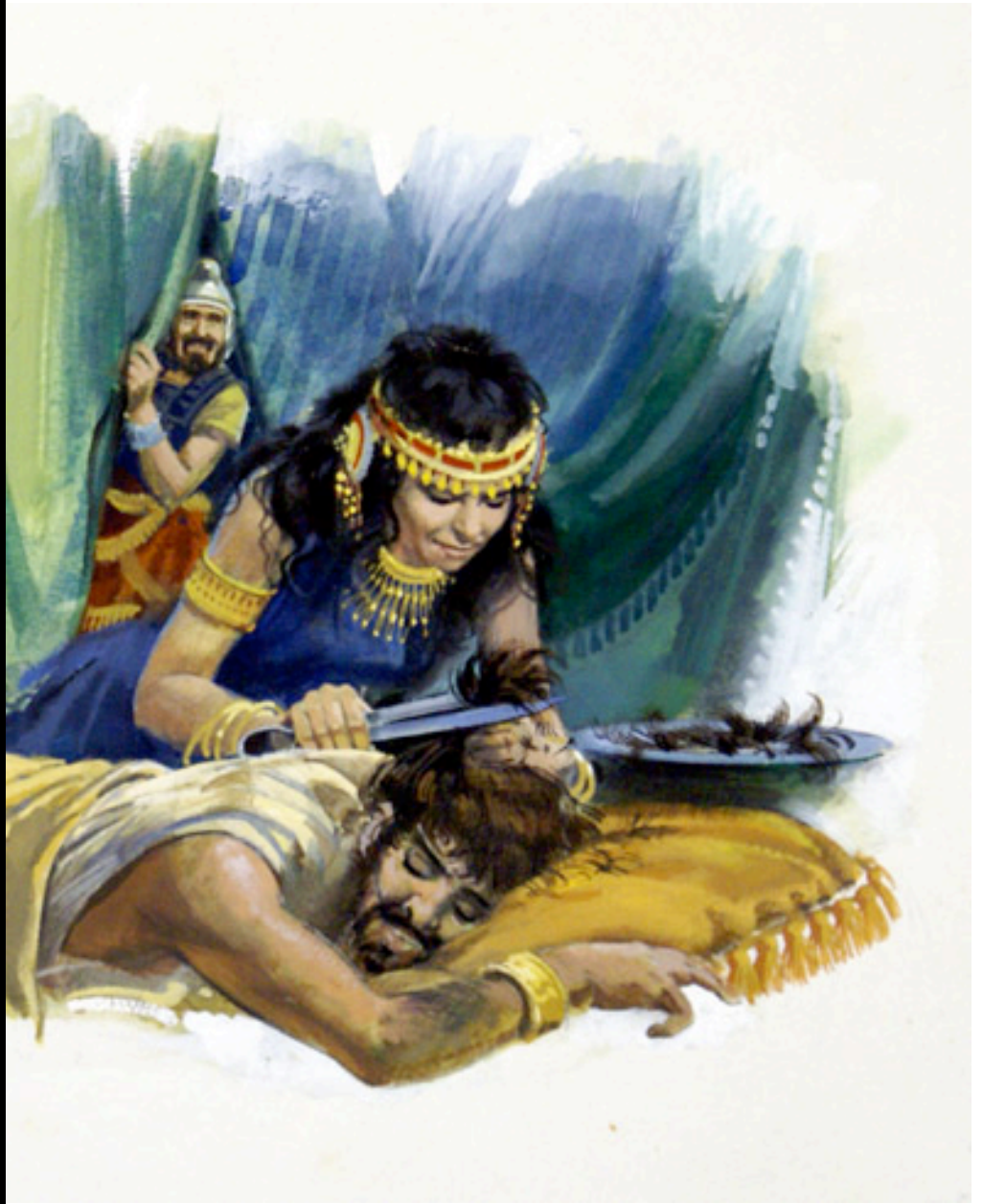


# JUDGES 16





15 Then she said to him, "How can you say, 'I love you,' when you won't confide in me? This is the third time you have made a fool of me and haven't told me the secret of your great strength."



16 With such nagging she prodded him day after day until he was tired to death.

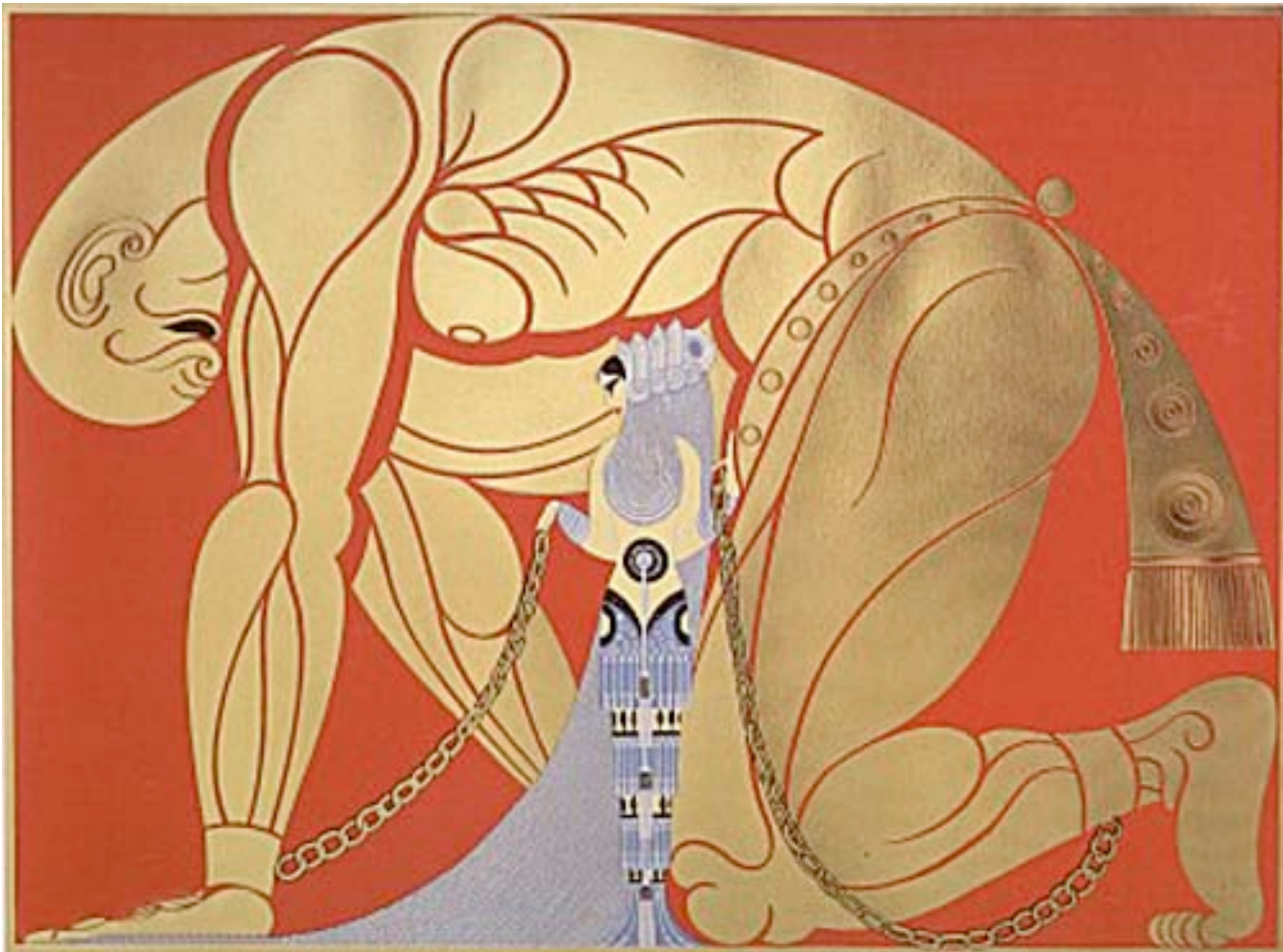


17 So he told her everything. "No razor has ever been used on my head," he said, "because I have been a Nazirite set apart to God since birth.





If my head were shaved, my strength would leave me, and I would become as weak as any other man."



<sup>18</sup> When Delilah saw that he had told her everything, she sent word to the rulers of the Philistines,





"Come back  
once more;  
he has told  
me  
everything."  
So the rulers  
of the  
Philistines  
returned  
with the  
silver in  
their hands.







<sup>19</sup> Having put him to sleep on her lap, she called a man to shave off the seven braids of his hair, and so began to subdue him. And his strength left him.



<sup>20</sup> Then she  
called,  
"Samson, the  
Philistines are  
upon you!" He  
awoke from his  
sleep and  
thought, "I'll go  
out as before  
and shake  
myself free."



But he did not know that  
the LORD had left him.

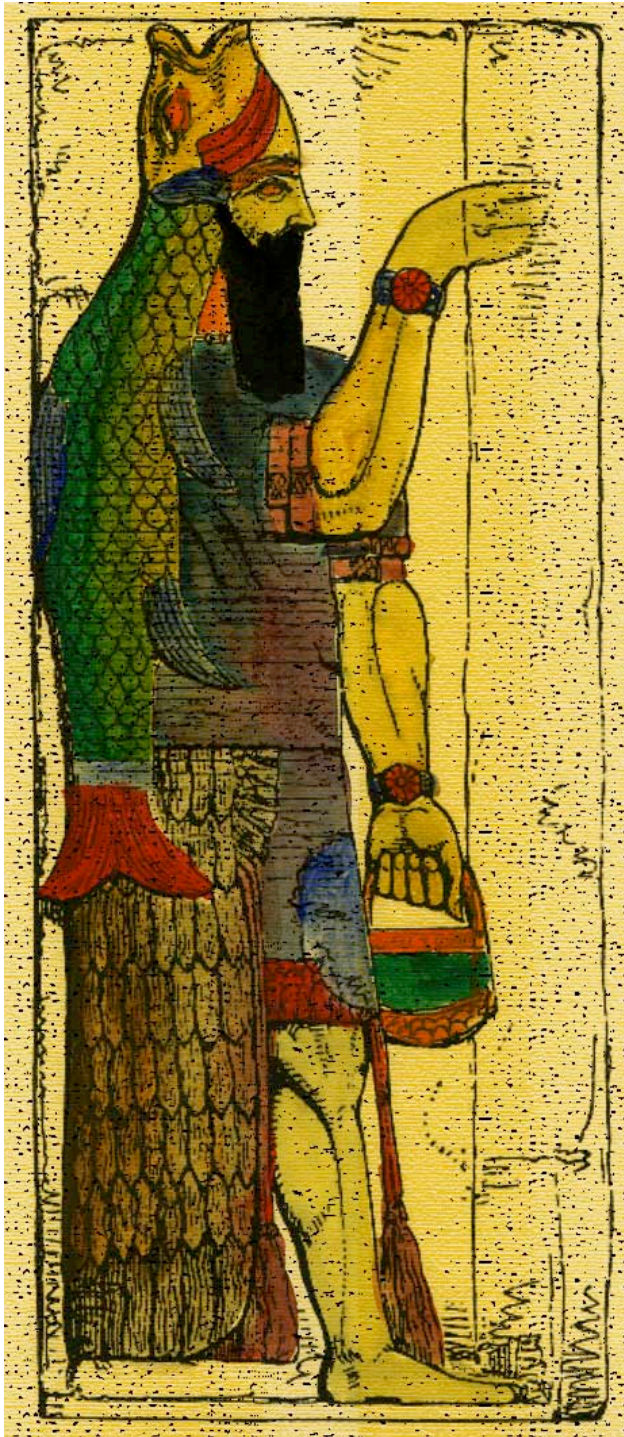


<sup>21</sup> Then the Philistines seized him, gouged out his eyes and took him down to Gaza. Binding him with bronze shackles, they set him to grinding in the prison.



22 But the hair on his head began to grow again after it had been shaved.





<sup>23</sup> Now the rulers of the Philistines assembled to offer a great sacrifice to Dagon their god and to celebrate, saying, "Our god has delivered Samson, our enemy, into our hands."





<sup>24</sup> When the people  
saw him, they  
praised their god,  
saying, “Our god  
has delivered our  
enemy into our  
hands, the one who  
laid waste our land  
and multiplied our  
slain.

<sup>25</sup> While they were in high spirits, they shouted, "Bring out Samson to entertain us." So they called Samson out of the prison, and he performed for them.











When they stood him among the pillars,  
<sup>26</sup>Samson said to the servant who held his  
hand, "Put me where I can feel the pillars  
that support the temple, so that I may lean  
against them."



<sup>26</sup> Samson said to the servant who held his hand, "Put me where I can feel the pillars that support the temple, so that I may lean against them."





<sup>27</sup> Now the temple was crowded with men and women; all the rulers of the Philistines were there, and on the roof were about three thousand men and women watching Samson perform.





28 Then Samson  
prayed to the LORD,  
"O Sovereign LORD,  
remember me. O  
God, please  
strengthen me just  
once more, and let  
me with one blow  
get revenge on the  
Philistines for my  
two eyes."

29 Then Samson reached toward the two central pillars on which the temple stood. Bracing himself against them, his right hand on the one and his left hand on the other,





30 Samson said,  
"Let me die with  
the Philistines!"  
Then he pushed  
with all his  
might, and down  
came the temple  
on the rulers and  
all the people in  
it.



Thus he killed many more when he died  
than while he lived.



